**Disparity in Pay Scales of Scientists**

1175. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that disparity in pay scales of Scientists in Scientific Institutions and University Teachers has resulted due to pay revisions for the latter;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a committee headed by Prof. M. G. K. Menon recommended pay revision for Scientists with effect from January, 1986;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the revised pay scales for scientists in scientific institutions have not been effected so far; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to eliminate the disparity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Latest U.S. Equipment to Pakistan**

1176. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item as reported in 'the Indian Express' of 16th June, 1988; captioned "Pak insists on latest equipment";

(b) whether Pakistan is acquiring/insisting US Government to give latest equipments etc; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto and what precautionary steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This is government's understanding.

(c) Government keep under constant review all developments having a bearing on the country's security and appropriate counter-measures are taken.

**China's New Rapid Paratroop Force**

1177. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in 'the Indian Express' dated the 16th June, 1988 under the acption "China's new rapid paratroop force";

(b) whether China is deploying new airborne rapid response unit which can prove to be dangerous for the neighbouring countries; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard and the further precautionary steps Government propose to contemplate in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) Government have seen the press report about China organising a new rapid deployment force. The deployment of such a force would impart considerable flexibility to China's military strategy in relation to her neighbours.

(c) Government keep a watch on all developmets which have a bearing on national security with a view to ensuring full defence preparedness.